

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB809

Hearing Date: Monday January 23, 2012
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Lautenbaugh
One Liner: Change provisions relating to evaluation of certificated employees of schools

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Adams, Cornett, Seiler, Howard, Haar, Council
Nay:	1	Senator Sullivan
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Avery

Proponents:

Brent Smoyer
Chris Proulx

Representing:

Senator Scott Lautenbaugh
self

Opponents:

Nancy Biggs

Jerry Hoffman
John Bonaiuto

Representing:

Nebraska Council of School Administrators and
Nebraska Association of School Personnel
Administrators
Nebraska State Educators Association
Nebraska Association of School Boards

Neutral:

Brian Hallstead

Representing:

Nebraska Department of Education

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 809 would change provisions related to the evaluation of probationary certificated employees and require yearly evaluation of permanent certificated employees for purposes of helping determine whether just cause exists for amending or terminating the contract of such an employee.

Section 79-828, which contains provisions related to contracts and evaluation of probationary certificated employees, would be amended to extend to all classes of school districts the requirement that such employees, other than superintendents, be evaluated each semester. Current statute excludes Class IV and V school districts (which currently consist solely of Lincoln Public Schools and Omaha Public Schools, respectively) from this requirement. The bill would require that such evaluation be based on actual classroom observations by a school district administrator, unless otherwise agreed to in a collective-bargaining agreement, for a minimum of ninety minutes each semester with no observation being less than thirty minutes. Current statute requires only that such observations be made for an entire instructional period.

Section 79-829, which contains the reasons for which a school board may amend or terminate the contract of a permanent certificated employee, would be amended to require all classes of school districts to evaluate such employees each school year to help determine whether just cause exists for amendment or termination of such an

employee's contract. The bill would require such evaluations to be based on actual classroom observations by a school district administrator, unless otherwise agreed to in a collective-bargaining agreement, for a minimum of ninety minutes per year with no observation being less than thirty minutes. If deficiencies are noted in the work performance of any such permanent certificated employee, the evaluator would be required to provide such employee at the time of the observation with a list of deficiencies, a list of suggestions for improvement and assistance in overcoming the deficiencies, and followup evaluations and assistance when deficiencies remain.

Greg Adams, Chairperson